

**From:** Scott Slack  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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I think that the best solution is to cause Microsoft to compete with itself.

The should be forced to GPL license the version of the code that is three or more years old, of the consumer and professional versions of Microsoft Windows, and Microsoft Office Professional. Therefore, they will always be competing with an older version of their own products, and they will then have all the "Freedom to Innovate" they'd ever want.

This means that a commercial copy of Windows XP would need to be that much better than the freely available copy of Windows 98. Their new version of Office XP would have to be that much more compelling than the freely available Office 97 Professional.

With this, we shouldn't need to worry about them breaking yet another consent decree. Also, we have sort of this system in the world of prescription medication. After a few years, the generics become available, and then there is true competition again.

-Scott